

We claim:

1. An apparatus for manipulating digital certificates within a distributed data processing system, the apparatus comprising:
 - 5 a reception software module that receives a request from a user regarding the digital certificate, the reception software module generating a reception event in response to the request and propagating the reception event;
one or more other software modules, communicatively coupled to the reception software module, that act upon a request event; and
 - 10 the reception software module and the one or more other software modules executing independently and communicating with one another by propagating request events.
2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the reception software module is
15 implemented in a computer system independent manner.
3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the reception software module is written in Java.
- 20 4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the reception software module and one of the one or more other software modules execute on different computing devices.

5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein one of the one or more other software modules generates a reply event after manipulating the digital certificate, the reply event propagated to a software module that propagated the request event 5 to the one of the one or more other software modules.

6. A method for implementing requests regarding a digital certificate within a distributed data processing system, the method comprising:

- receiving a request from a user in a reception software module
- 10 generating a reception event;
- determining an action regarding the digital certificate in a one or more other software modules based on the reception of an event;
- selectively implementing the action regarding the digital certificate in one or more other software modules; and
- 15 the reception software module and the one or more other software modules executing independently and communicating with one another through propagating the events.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein the reception software module is 20 implemented in a computer system independent manner.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein the reception software is implemented in Java.

9. The method of claim 6 wherein the reception software and one of the one 5 or more other software modules execute on different computing systems.

10. The method of claim 6 further comprising:

generating a reply event, in one of the one or more other software modules, after the step of selectively implementing.

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11. A computer program product on a computer usable medium, the computer usable medium having computer a usable program embodied therein for implementing a request regarding a digital certificate on a distributed data processing system, the computer usable program including:

15 instructions for receiving the request from a user;

instructions for generating a reception event in response to receiving the request;

instructions for determining an action regarding a digital certificate upon receiving an event; and

20 instructions for selectively implementing the action regarding a digital certificate upon receiving an event; and

the instructions for selectively implementing executing and the instructions for receiving operating independently and communicating with one another through propagating the events.

5 12. The computer program product of claim 11 wherein the instructions for receiving are implemented in a computer system independent manner.

13. The computer program product of claim 12 wherein the instructions for receiving are implemented in Java.

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14. The computer program product of claim 11 wherein the instructions for receiving and instructions for implementing operate on different computing devices.

15 15. The computer program product of claim 11 wherein the instructions for implementing generate a reply event after implementing the action regarding the digital certificate.

16. An apparatus for implementing a request regarding a digital certificate
20 within a distributed data processing system, the distributed processing system comprising one or more computing systems, the apparatus comprising:

a first reception software module that receives the request regarding the digital certificate and generates a reception event;

one or more other software modules, communicatively coupled to the reception software module, that selectively implement the request upon receiving
5 an event from another software module;

the first reception software module being implemented in a computing system independent manner; and

the first reception software module and the one or more other software modules executing independently.

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17. The apparatus of claim 16 further comprising a second reception software module, the second reception software module responsive to requests in a second format by generating reception events; and

the second reception module operating independently from the first
15 reception software module.

18. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the first reception software module is implemented in a computer system independent manner.

20 19. The apparatus of claim 18 wherein the first reception software module is implemented in Java.

20. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein one of the one or more software modules generates a reply event, the reply event propagated to the another software module.

5 21. A method for implementing a request regarding a digital certificate within a distributed data processing system, the distributed processing system comprising one or more computing systems, the apparatus comprising:

receiving the request in a first reception software module;

generating a reception event;

10 selectively implementing the request upon receiving an event in one or more other software modules, the event originating in another software module;

the reception software module being implemented in a computing system independent manner; and

the reception software module and the one or more other software

15 modules executing independently.

22. The method of claim 21 further comprising;

receiving a second request in a second format from a second reception software module, the second reception software module

20 generating a reception event; and

the second reception module operating independently from the first reception software module.

23. The method of claim 21 wherein the first reception software module is implemented in a computer system independent manner.

5 24. The method of claim 23 wherein the first reception module is implemented in Java.

25. The method of claim 21 further comprising
generating a reply event in one of the one or more software modules in
10 response to the step of selectively implementing; and
propagating the reply event to the another software module.

26. A computer program product on a computer usable medium, the computer
usable medium having computer a usable program embodied therein for
15 implementing a request regarding a digital certificate on a distributed data
processing system, the computer usable program including:

a first instructions for receiving the request regarding the digital certificate
and generating a reception event;

one or more other instructions for implementing the request, the one or
20 more other instructions communicatively coupled to the instructions for receiving,
that selectively implement the request upon receiving an event from another
instruction;

first instructions for receiving implemented in a computing system independent manner; and

the first instructions for receiving and the one or more other instructions for implementing the request executing independently.

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27. The computer program product of claim 26 further comprising a second instructions for receiving, the second instructions for receiving responsive to requests in a second format by generating reception events; and

the second instructions for receiving operating independently from the first 10 instructions for receiving.

28. The computer program product of claim 26 wherein the first instructions for receiving are implemented in a computer system independent manner.

15 29. The computer program product of claim 28 wherein the first instructions for receiving are implemented in Java.

30. The computer program product of claim 26 wherein one or more other instructions for implementing the request generates a reply event, the reply 20 event propagated to the another instruction.